

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced through these amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to specify that the substrate supports are stationary. Tanaka requires that the substrate supports move in order to define the hermetically sealed spaces for each individual substrate (see Figures 1-4 and column 4, line 28 through column 5, line 35) and so that the substrates are delivered to the same location in the auxiliary chamber (see column 5, lines 24-35). Accordingly, claims 1 and 6 are patentable over the cited combination and dependent claims 2-5 and 7-13 are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance based on the foregoing remarks. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774-6921. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also

authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. LAM2P324A). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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